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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/002,349	01/02/1998		040808-5058	7725

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EXAMINER
WHITE, MITCHELL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2612	

DATE MAILED: 07/08/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/002,349	IKEDA,, OSAMU	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mitchell L White	2612	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 May 2002* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-23* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-23* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Prosecution Application

1. The request filed on 5/16/02 for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 09/002,349 is acceptable and a CPA has been established. An action on the CPA follows.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> ***(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patent ability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.***

4. Claims 1-3, 5,-13 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsushima et al. (US 5,999,213) in view of Faulkerson et al. (US 4,901,364).

Regarding claim **1**, Tsushima et al. discloses a method for setting up a camera including a video recorder integrally combined (col.1, lines 5-11). Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 8, an operational input unit represented by image window (Wd)

for inputting external operations that designate corresponding functions of the camera to be performed using the icon images (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 3, a image capture unit (117, col. 13, lines 52-60), a disk drive (350) which may include an optical disk employing an recordable and reproducible optical disk (col. 12, lines 3-8), a mode selector which may be interpreted as a pointing device (300) which is used to select a function from a plurality of functions (col. 16, lines 53-67), wherein if the help menu is selected, as in fig. 9F, various items of assistive information with respect to the camera setup functions are displayed (col. 20, lines 58-61). This assistive information would inherently include the external operations and corresponding camera functions which are inputted through operational input unit (Wd) that designate corresponding functions of the camera to be performed using the icon images (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that operation input unit, the recorder, and the mode selector are enclosed within the camera body. However, Faulkerson et al. disclose an interactive optical scanner system that includes a camera with a plurality of tactilely-operated camera function keys disposed on the housing for providing respective camera function key token signals corresponding to each camera function key in dependence on the user manipulation (col. 1, lines 47-51) and a user-programmable means responsive to the respective camera function key token signals for associating a particular key token signal with a programmable output value corresponding to one or more keyboard character or keyboard function keys or sequences of keys associated with the computer keyboard (col. 1, lines 48-65). This allows the camera to be controlled via the camera itself or the computer keyboard (col.

5, lines 35-38). It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include the all the same functions which are provided on the computer keyboard as taught by Faulkerson et al. to increase the number possible programmable functions of the camera.

Regarding claim **2**, Tsushima discloses a basic input/output system that reads program data such as the help menu of the operating system (129) from the disk drive (350, col. 14, lines 45-65). Tsushima et al. discloses a help menu mode that is selected, as in fig. 9F, in which various items of assistive information with respect to the camera setup functions are displayed.

Regarding claim **3**, Tsushima et al. discloses a command analyzer (132), which decides whether a command indicates a help process in which the function would not be performed (col. 26, line 50 - col. 27, line 3).

Regarding claim **5**, Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 3, an image capture unit (117, col. 13, lines 52-60), a disk drive (350) that may include an optical disk employing a recordable and reproducible optical disk (col. 12, lines 3-8).

Regarding claim **6**, Tsushima et al. discloses operating system (129) writing image data to a VRAM (105, col. 14, lines 66-67).

Regarding claims **7-8**, Tsushima et al. discloses a mode selector, which may be interpreted as a pointing device (300), which is used to externally select a function from a plurality of functions (col. 16, lines 53-67).

Regarding claim **9,** Tsushima et al. discloses a help menu that is selected, as in fig. 9F, in which various items of assistive information with respect to the camera setup

functions are displayed (col. 20, lines 58-61). Tsushima et al. further disclose, in fig. 3, a camera setup system, which includes a computer (100, col. 11, lines 6-20). Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that the help menu operates in the form of sound. However, Official Notice is taken that computers have speech synthesizers to read text so as to assist vision-impaired users. It would have been obvious to have the Tsushima et al. computer to include sound to read text so as to assist vision-impaired users.

Regarding claim **10**, Tsushima et al. discloses a help menu that is selected, as in fig. 9F, in which various items of assistive information with respect to the camera setup functions are displayed (col. 20, lines 58-61). Since the help screens of the help menu are being viewed on a display, they may be considered a series of images.

Regarding claim **11**, Tsushima et al. discloses a help menu that is selected, as in fig. 9F, in which various items of assistive information with respect to the camera setup functions are displayed (col. 20, lines 58-61).

Regarding claim **12**, Tsushima et al. disclose using mechanical switches A, B, and C (col. 44, lines 54-56).

Regarding claim **13**, Tsushima et al. discloses a mode selector, which may be interpreted as a pointing device (300), which is used to select a function from a plurality of functions using a touch screen (col. 16, lines 53-67).

Regarding claim **22**, Tsushima et al. discloses a method for setting up a camera including a video recorder integrally combined (col.1, lines 5-11). Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 8, an operational input unit represented by image window (Wd) for inputting external operations that designate corresponding functions of the

camera to be performed using the icon images (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 3, a image capture unit (117, col. 13, lines 52-60), a disk drive (350) which may include an optical disk employing an recordable and reproducible optical disk (col. 12, lines 3-8), a mode selector which may be interpreted as a pointing device (300) which is used to select a function from a plurality of functions (col. 16, lines 53-67), wherein if the help menu is selected, as in fig. 9F, various items of assistive information with respect to the camera setup functions are displayed (col. 20, lines 58-61). This assistive information would inherently include the external operations and corresponding camera functions which are inputted through operational input unit (Wd) that designate corresponding functions of the camera to be performed using the icon images (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that operation input unit, the recorder, and the selecting means are enclosed within the camera body. However, Faulkerson et al. disclose an interactive optical scanner system that includes a camera with a plurality of tactilely-operated camera function keys disposed on the housing for providing respective camera function key token signals corresponding to each camera function key in dependence on the user manipulation (col. 1, lines 47-51) and a user-programmable means responsive to the respective camera function key token signals for associating a particular key token signal with a programmable output value corresponding to one or more keyboard character or keyboard function keys or sequences of keys associated with the computer keyboard (col. 1, lines 48-65). This allows the camera to be controlled via the camera itself or the computer keyboard (col. 5, lines 35-38). It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to

include the all the same functions which are provided on the computer keyboard as taught by Faulkerson et al. to increase the number possible programmable functions of the camera.

5. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsushima et al. in view of Faulkerson et al. and Parulski et al. (US 5,633,678).

Regarding claim **4**, Tsushima et al. discloses a help menu that is selected, as in fig. 9F, in which various items of assistive information with respect to the camera setup functions are displayed (col. 20, lines 58-61) wherein the help menu is stored on a computer with a removable memory (col.12, line 57- col. 13, line 23). Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that the help menu is automatically selected when the detachable recording medium having the help menu stored thereon is attached. However, Parulski et al. discloses a camera for capturing and categorizing images which includes category information that is externally generated from a computer on a memory card and uploading to the camera (col. 4, line 56- col. 5, line 8). When the memory card is inserted into the camera, a processor determines if the memory card contains any category information and if the memory card contains any category information then the information is downloaded to the camera (col. 5, lines 9-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include a help menu that is automatically selected when the detachable recording medium having the help menu stored thereon is attached as taught by Parulski et al. to store the help menu of a detachable memory medium so it could be read or used when the camera is detached from the camera.

6. Claims 14-21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsushima et al. in view of Faulkerson et al. and Ishibashi et al (US 4,316,656).

Regarding claim **14**, Tsushima et al. discloses a method for setting up a camera including a video recorder integrally combined (col.1, lines 5-11). Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 8, an operational input unit represented by image window (Wd) for inputting external operations that designate corresponding functions of the camera to be performed using the icon images (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 3, a image capture unit (117, col. 13, lines 52-60), a disk drive (350) which may include an optical disk employing an recordable and reproducible optical disk (col. 12, lines 3-8), a mode selector which may be interpreted as a pointing device (300) which is used to select a function from a plurality of functions (col. 16, lines 53-67), wherein if the help menu is selected, as in fig. 9F, various items of assistive information with respect to the camera setup functions are displayed (col. 20, lines 58-61). This assistive information would inherently include the external operations and corresponding camera functions which are inputted through operational input unit (Wd) that designate corresponding functions of the camera to be performed using the icon images (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that operation the recorder, the mode selector, and the function tester are enclosed within the camera body. However, Faulkerson et al. disclose an interactive optical scanner system that includes a camera with a plurality of tactilely-operated camera function keys disposed on the housing for providing respective camera function key token signals

corresponding to each camera function key in dependence on the user manipulation (col. 1, lines 47-51) and a user-programmable means responsive to the respective camera function key token signals for associating a particular key token signal with a programmable output value corresponding to one or more keyboard character or keyboard function keys or sequences of keys associated with the computer keyboard (col. 1, lines 48-65). This allows the camera to be controlled via the camera itself or the computer keyboard (col. 5, lines 35-38). It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include the all the same functions which are provided on the computer keyboard as taught by Faulkerson et al. to increase the number possible programmable functions of the camera. Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that the camera includes diagnosis mode, which includes a function tester for testing functions of the camera if the mode selector selects the function diagnosis mode. However, Ishibashi et al. discloses useful function and status information of camera operation under the control of various function test select buttons disposed about the camera housing (col. 1, lines 28-53). Ishibashi et al. discloses an exposure or iris setting indicator, which includes iris or aperture representation (col. 2, lines 50-52). This iris-setting indicator inherently performs some form of test to provide the indication of the iris setting. It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include a diagnosis mode which includes a function tester as taught by Ishibashi et al. to provide status information of functions of a camera to ensure proper camera operation.

Regarding claim **15**, Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 3, a image capture unit (117, col. 13, lines 52-60), a disk drive (350) which may include an optical disk

employing an recordable and reproducible optical disk (col. 12, lines 3-8), a mode selector which may be interpreted as a pointing device (300) which is used to externally select a function from a plurality of functions (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that the camera includes diagnosis mode, which includes a function tester for testing functions of the camera if the mode selector selects the function diagnosis mode. However, Ishibashi et al. discloses useful function and status information of camera operation under the control of various function test select buttons disposed about the camera housing (col. 1, lines 28-53). It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include a diagnosis mode which includes a function tester as taught by Ishibashi et al. to provide status information of functions of a camera to ensure proper camera operation.

Regarding claim **16**, Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 3, a image capture unit (117, col. 13, lines 52-60), a disk drive (350) which may include an optical disk employing an recordable and reproducible optical disk (col. 12, lines 3-8), a mode selector which may be interpreted as a pointing device (300) which is used to externally select a function from a plurality of functions (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that the camera includes diagnosis mode, which includes a function tester for testing functions of the camera if the mode selector selects the function diagnosis mode. However, Ishibashi et al. discloses useful function and status information of camera operation under the control of various function test select buttons disposed about the camera housing (col. 1, lines 28-53). It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include a diagnosis mode which includes a

function tester as taught by Ishibashi et al. to provide status information of functions of a camera to ensure proper camera operation.

Regarding claim **17**, Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 3, a image capture unit (117, col. 13, lines 52-60), a disk drive (350) which may include an optical disk employing an recordable and reproducible optical disk (col. 12, lines 3-8), a mode selector which may be interpreted as a pointing device (300) which is used to externally select a function from a plurality of functions (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that the camera includes diagnosis mode, which includes a function tester for displaying results generated by the function tester. However, Ishibashi et al. discloses useful function and status information of camera operation under the control of various function test select buttons disposed about the camera housing wherein an all-test button is provided to actuate various function indicators by the quantity indicator in a test function sequence for a readout of all the displayed camera functions (col. 1, lines 28-53).

Regarding claim **18**, Tsushima et al. discloses a method for setting up a camera including a video recorder integrally combined (col.1, lines 5-11). Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 8, an operational input unit represented by image window (Wd) for inputting external operations that designate corresponding functions of the camera to be performed using the icon images (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 3, a image capture unit (117, col. 13, lines 52-60), a disk drive (350) which may include an optical disk employing an recordable and reproducible optical disk (col. 12, lines 3-8), a mode selector which may be interpreted as a pointing

device (300) which is used to select a function from a plurality of functions (col. 16, lines 53-67). This assistive information would inherently include the external operations and corresponding camera functions which are inputted through operational input unit (Wd) that designate corresponding functions of the camera to be performed using the icon images (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that operation of the mode selector, operation input unit, the recorder, and the function tester are enclosed within the camera body. However, Faulkerson et al. disclose an interactive optical scanner system that includes a camera with a plurality of tactilely-operated camera function keys disposed on the housing for providing respective camera function key token signals corresponding to each camera function key in dependence on the user manipulation (col. 1, lines 47-51) and a user-programmable means responsive to the respective camera function key token signals for associating a particular key token signal with a programmable output value corresponding to one or more keyboard character or keyboard function keys or sequences of keys associated with the computer keyboard (col. 1, lines 48-65). This allows the camera to be controlled via the camera itself or the computer keyboard (col. 5, lines 35-38). It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include the all the same functions which are provided on the computer keyboard as taught by Faulkerson et al. to increase the number possible programmable functions of the camera. Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that the camera includes diagnosis mode, which includes a function tester for testing functions of the camera if the mode selector selects the function diagnosis mode. However, Ishibashi et al. discloses useful function and status

information of camera operation under the control of various function test select buttons disposed about the camera housing (col. 1, lines 28-53). Ishibashi et al. discloses an exposure or iris setting indicator, which includes iris or aperture representation (col. 2, lines 50-52). This iris-setting indicator inherently performs some form of test to provide the indication of the iris setting. It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include a diagnosis mode which includes a function tester as taught by Ishibashi et al. to provide status information of functions of a camera to ensure proper camera operation.

Regarding claim **19**, Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that the camera includes diagnosis mode, which includes a function tester for automatically testing functions. However, Ishibashi et al. discloses automatically displaying predetermined camera functions during testing function (col. 2, lines 3-9). It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include a diagnosis mode which includes a function tester as taught by Ishibashi et al. to provide status information of functions of a camera to ensure proper camera operation.

Regarding claim **20**, Tsushima et al. discloses a mode selector, which may be interpreted as a pointing device (300), which is used to externally select a function from a plurality of functions (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that the camera includes diagnosis mode, which includes a function tester for testing functions of the camera if the mode selector selects the function diagnosis mode. However, Ishibashi et al. discloses useful function and status information of camera operation under the control of various function test select buttons disposed about the

camera housing (col. 1, lines 28-53). It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include a diagnosis mode which includes a function tester as taught by Ishibashi et al. to provide status information of functions of a camera to ensure proper camera operation.

Regarding claim **21**, Tsushima et al. discloses a method for setting up a camera including a video recorder integrally combined (col.1, lines 5-11). Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 8, an operational input unit represented by image window (Wd) for inputting external operations that designate corresponding functions of the camera to be performed using the icon images (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 3, a image capture unit (117, col. 13, lines 52-60), a disk drive (350) which may include an optical disk employing an recordable and reproducible optical disk (col. 12, lines 3-8), a mode selector which may be interpreted as a pointing device (300) which is used to select a function from a plurality of functions (col. 16, lines 53-67). This assistive information would inherently include the external operations and corresponding camera functions which are inputted through operational input unit (Wd) that designate corresponding functions of the camera to be performed using the icon images (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that operation input unit, the recorder, and the function tester are enclosed within the camera body. However, Faulkerson et al. disclose an interactive optical scanner system that includes a camera with a plurality of tactilely-operated camera function keys disposed on the housing for providing respective camera function key token signals corresponding to each camera function key in dependence on the user manipulation (col. 1, lines 47-51)

and a user-programmable means responsive to the respective camera function key token signals for associating a particular key token signal with a programmable output value corresponding to one or more keyboard character or keyboard function keys or sequences of keys associated with the computer keyboard (col. 1, lines 48-65). This allows the camera to be controlled via the camera itself or the computer keyboard (col. 5, lines 35-38). It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include the all the same functions which are provided on the computer keyboard as taught by Faulkerson et al. to increase the number possible programmable functions of the camera. Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that the camera includes diagnosis mode, which includes a function tester for testing functions of the camera if the mode selector selects the function diagnosis mode. However, Ishibashi et al. discloses useful function and status information of camera operation under the control of various function test select buttons disposed about the camera housing (col. 1, lines 28-53). Ishibashi et al. discloses an exposure or iris setting indicator, which includes iris or aperture representation (col. 2, lines 50-52). This iris-setting indicator inherently performs some form of test to provide the indication of the iris setting. It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include a diagnosis mode which includes a function tester as taught by Ishibashi et al. to provide status information of functions of a camera to ensure proper camera operation.

Regarding claim **23**, Tsushima et al. discloses a method for setting up a camera including a video recorder integrally combined (col.1, lines 5-11). Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 8, an operational input unit represented by image window (Wd)

for inputting external operations that designate corresponding functions of the camera to be performed using the icon images (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. further discloses, in fig. 3, a image capture unit (117, col. 13, lines 52-60), a disk drive (350) which may include an optical disk employing an recordable and reproducible optical disk (col. 12, lines 3-8), a mode selector which may be interpreted as a pointing device (300) which is used to select a function from a plurality of functions (col. 16, lines 53-67), wherein if the help menu is selected, as in fig. 9F, various items of assistive information with respect to the camera setup functions are displayed (col. 20, lines 58-61). This assistive information would inherently include the external operations and corresponding camera functions which are inputted through operational input unit (Wd) that designate corresponding functions of the camera to be performed using the icon images (col. 16, lines 53-67). Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that the recording means, the selecting means, and the testing means are enclosed within the camera body. However, Faulkerson et al. disclose an interactive optical scanner system that includes a camera with a plurality of tactilely-operated camera function keys disposed on the housing for providing respective camera function key token signals corresponding to each camera function key in dependence on the user manipulation (col. 1, lines 47-51) and a user-programmable means responsive to the respective camera function key token signals for associating a particular key token signal with a programmable output value corresponding to one or more keyboard character or keyboard function keys or sequences of keys associated with the computer keyboard (col. 1, lines 48-65). This allows the camera to be controlled via the camera itself or the

computer keyboard (col. 5, lines 35-38). It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include the all the same functions which are provided on the computer keyboard as taught by Faulkerson et al. to increase the number possible programmable functions of the camera. Tsushima et al. does not explicitly state that the camera includes diagnosis mode, which includes a function tester for testing functions of the camera if the mode selector selects the function diagnosis mode. However, Ishibashi et al. discloses useful function and status information of camera operation under the control of various function test select buttons disposed about the camera housing (col. 1, lines 28-53). Ishibashi et al. discloses an exposure or iris setting indicator, which includes iris or aperture representation (col. 2, lines 50-52). This iris-setting indicator inherently performs some form of test to provide the indication of the iris setting. It would have been obvious to modify the Tsushima et al. camera to include a diagnosis mode which includes a function tester as taught by Ishibashi et al. to provide status information of functions of a camera to ensure proper camera operation.

Conclusion

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

I. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mitchell White whose telephone number is (703) 305-8155. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber, can be reached on (703) 305-4929.

Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

MLW

June 26, 2002

WENDY R. GARBER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600